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C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 007329

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/2013

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPAL](#) [IS](#) [JO](#) [UNGA](#) [UNRWA](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO JORDAN ON UNRWA RESOLUTION IN UNGA:  
JORDAN SEEK USG POSITION ON PALESTINIAN RESOLUTIONS

REF: STATE 311971

Classified By: DCM David M. Hale for reasons 1.5 (b) (d)

1. (C) PolCouns delivered ref points and a copy of the latest U.S. draft UNGA UNRWA resolution November 9 to Ali al-Ayed, Director of Foreign Minister Muasher's office, and Samer Naber, Head of the MFA Legal Department. PolCouns thanked Ayed and Naber for Jordan's positive role in the discussions thus far in New York, and asked for Jordan's continued assistance. He also asked that Jordan vote for the U.S.-proposed resolution, even if it means passing five UNRWA resolutions.

2. (C) Ayed and Naber said that Jordan supports the U.S. goal of consolidating UNRWA resolutions and is pleased with the progress made thus far in discussions and the cooperative attitude shown by all sides. Jordan's highest priority in these discussions, they continued, is to make sure that the rights of those persons displaced during the 1967 war are enshrined in the UNRWA resolution. Given that Jordan has a very large Palestinian refugee population, they argued, Jordan must make sure that the rights of this population are protected.

3. (C) Naber described the four Palestinian draft resolutions as "at times excessive" in their references to issues -- like the Fourth Geneva Convention -- that are adequately covered elsewhere. Ayed and Naber asked whether the USG would support, oppose, or abstain on each of the four Palestinian drafts. U.S. support (or lack of opposition) would make it easier to garner support for the U.S. resolution, they argued. They promised to discuss the issue further internally and respond before the vote on November 11.

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COMMENT  
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4. (C) The Jordanians were clearly hoping to hear that the USG could support -- or at least abstain on -- some or all of the Palestinian drafts. This would make it much easier for Jordan to support the U.S. consolidated resolution. Please advise how we should respond to this question.

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GNEHM